

REMARKS

Claims 1-72 were pending in the application. Claims 1-23 and 32-72 have been canceled as being directed to a non-elected invention and claims 24, 26, 27, 28, 29, and 31 have been amended. Accordingly, upon entry of this amendment, claims 24-31 and 73-75 will be pending. For the Examiner's convenience, the pending claims are set forth in Appendix A.

Support for the amendments to the claims and the new claims may be found throughout the specification, including the originally filed claims. In particular, the amendments to claim 24 may be found at, for example, page 7, lines 7-13 of the specification.

No new matter has been added. Any amendments to and/or cancellation of the claims should in no way be construed as an acquiescence to any of the Examiner's rejections and was done solely to more particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter of Applicants' invention in order to expedite the prosecution of the application. Applicants reserve the right to pursue the claims as originally filed in this or a separate application(s).

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

The Examiner has required restriction to one of the inventions set forth in Groups I-LII of the instant Office Action.

Applicants hereby elect the Group XXVIII invention (claims 24-31) for prosecution in this application, *with traverse*. Applicants respectfully submit that Groups XIX-XXVIII should be re-grouped into a single Group.

Applicants respectfully submit that a sufficient search and examination with respect to the inventions of Groups XIX-XXVIII can be made without serious burden on the Examiner. As the M.P.E.P. states:

[i]f the search and examination of an entire application can be made without serious burden, the examiner must examine it on the merits, even though it includes claims to independent or distinct inventions. M.P.E.P. § 803.

The claims of Groups XIX-XXVIII are all directed to antibodies, or antigen binding fragments thereof, which are specific to α subunits. Moreover, Groups XIX-XXVIII have exactly the same class and subclass designations. Based on the similarity of Groups XIX-XXVIII, searches with regard to these inventions would be co-extensive and would not involve a serious burden on the Examiner. Applicants therefore request that the Examiner examine Groups XIX-XXVIII.

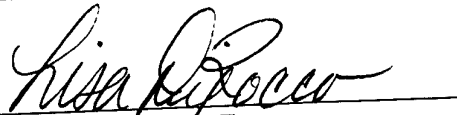
Applicants reserve the right to traverse the restriction between the non-elected groups in this or a separate application. Applicants submit that the newly added claims are directed to the elected invention.

SUMMARY

If a telephone conversation with Applicants' Attorney would expedite the prosecution of the above-identified application, the Examiner is urged to call the undersigned at (617) 227-7400.

Respectfully submitted,

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A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Lisa M. DiRocco", written over a horizontal line.

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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

Claims 1-23 and 32-72 have been canceled and claims 24, 26, 27, 28, 29, and 31 have been amended as follows:

24. (Amended) The use of a modified integrin I-domain polypeptide ~~of claim 2~~ stabilized in the open conformation as an immunogen as an assay reagent to ~~produce~~ identify an antibody ~~antibodies~~ that selectively binds to an integrin I-domain in the open conformation.

26. (Amended) ~~An~~ The antibody of claim 25, or an antigen binding fragment thereof, which binds to an activation specific epitope on the integrin I-domain.

27. (Amended) ~~An~~ The antibody of claim 25, or an antigen binding fragment thereof, which blocks an interaction between an integrin and a cognate ligand.

28. (Amended) ~~An~~ The antibody of claim 25, or an antigen binding fragment thereof, further comprising a pharmaceutical composition and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

29. (Amended) ~~An~~ The antibody of claim 25, or an antigen binding fragment thereof, wherein said antibody is an anti-LFA-1 antibody.

31. (Amended) The anti-LFA-1 antibody of claim 30, or an antigen binding fragment thereof, wherein said anti-LFA-1 antibody, or an antigen binding fragment thereof, selectively binds to a modified LFA-1 I-domain.

New claims 73-75 have been added as follows:

73. (New) The antibody of claim 25, or an antigen binding fragment thereof, wherein said antibody, or antigen binding fragment thereof, selectively binds to a modified I-domain of an α L subunit.

74. (New) The antibody of claim 73, or an antigen binding fragment thereof, wherein said modified I-domain of an α L subunit contains amino acid substitutions K287C/K294C or E284C/E301C.

75. (New) The anti-LFA-1 antibody of claim 31, or an antigen binding fragment thereof, wherein said anti-LFA-1 antibody, or an antigen binding fragment thereof selectively binds to a modified LFA-1 I-domain, wherein said modified LFA-1 I-domain contains amino acid substitutions K287C/K294C or E284C/E301C.

APPENDIX A

24. The use of a modified integrin I-domain polypeptide stabilized in the open conformation as an assay reagent to identify an antibody that selectively binds to an integrin I-domain in the open conformation.

25. An antibody, or an antigen binding fragment thereof, which selectively binds to a modified integrin I-domain in the open conformation.

26. The antibody of claim 25, or an antigen binding fragment thereof, which binds to an activation specific epitope on the integrin I-domain.

27. The antibody of claim 25, or an antigen binding fragment thereof, which blocks an interaction between an integrin and a cognate ligand.

28. The antibody of claim 25, or an antigen binding fragment thereof, further comprising a pharmaceutical composition and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

29. The antibody of claim 25, or an antigen binding fragment thereof, wherein said antibody is an anti-LFA-1 antibody.

30. An anti-LFA-1 antibody, or an antigen binding fragment thereof, which selectively binds to an LFA-1 I-domain in the open conformation.

31. The anti-LFA-1 antibody of claim 30, or an antigen binding fragment thereof, wherein said anti-LFA-1 antibody, or an antigen binding fragment thereof, selectively binds to a modified LFA-1 I-domain.

73. The antibody of claim 25, or an antigen binding fragment thereof, wherein said antibody, or antigen binding fragment thereof, selectively binds to a modified I-domain of an α L subunit.

74. The antibody of claim 73, or an antigen binding fragment thereof, wherein said modified I-domain of an α L subunit contains amino acid substitutions K287C/K294C or E284C/E301C.

75. The anti-LFA-1 antibody of claim 31, or an antigen binding fragment thereof, wherein said anti-LFA-1 antibody, or an antigen binding fragment thereof selectively binds to a modified LFA-1 I-domain, wherein said modified LFA-1 I-domain contains amino acid substitutions K287C/K294C or E284C/E301C.